

# *Huntsville High School Band Madrid, Valencia & Barcelona” 23 March - 02 April 2012*



**March 23 (Friday) Huntsville – Madrid, Spain**

**March 24 (Saturday) Arrive Madrid**

**Welcome to Spain!**

**Transfer to Segovia**

**Dinner and overnight stay in Segovia**



**Saturday March 24: Arrival into Madrid - Bus transfer to Segovia**

After your transatlantic flight from the United States, you will be met at Madrid Barajas airport by your tour director and bus driver for transfer to Segovia. The bus ride from Madrid airport to Segovia is about an hour, a short drive along a lovely mountainous road.

After checking into the hotel selected, you will have time to walk about its tranquil streets. Today, the city has the same number of inhabitants as during the Middle Ages and its principal monuments are well preserved.

Its sober Gothic cathedral is outstanding, and the last of this style built in Spain; the Alcazar, the palace/fortress that was inspiration for numerous other European castles, dominates the city from its steep cliffs; and above all, the robust Roman Aqueduct, the most spectacular in existence, which runs across the centre of the city, seems to defy time's destruction.

Dinner and overnight stay in Segovia.

### **March 25 (Sunday) Segovia & Concert # 1 (B,D)**

Breakfast

**Am. *visit to the city*** (without entrances)

Leisure time

**Pm. Rehearsal and Concert in Segovia**

**Dinner** and Overnight Stay in Segovia



### **SEGOVIA, walking tour and Concert**

Breakfast

will be followed with a guided walking tour of the ancient city, a walk through the history of Segovia from the ancient Roman Acqueduct to the splendors of the city during the XVI century. The Plaza Mayor, the old Jewish Quarter, the Alcazar Fortress. Segovia is one of the Human Heritage Cities named by Unesco for its beauty and preservation. After some leisure you will be transferred for the rehearsal and concert in Segovia city of its surroundings.

Dinner and overnight stay in Segovia

### **March 26 (Monday) Exc. Avila & Concert # 2 (B,D)**

Breakfast

**Am.** Departure to Avila, *visit to the city* (without entrances)

Free time for lunch

**Pm. Rehearsal and Concert in Avila**

**Dinner** and Return to the Hotel and overnight stay in Segovia



## **AVILA Excursion and Concert**

Breakfast.

Today you head by car across the lands of Castille. The highway runs parallel to the Sierra de Guadarrama and in one hour, you will arrive at the city of Avila.

You will visit this Medieval enclave by foot, and surely, like hundreds of thousands of other visitors, wonder not only at the city's superb individual monuments and buildings, but also at the 12<sup>th</sup> century wall that surrounds the urban center and which is in a perfect state. This city, home to the mystic Saint Teresa, also houses the first Gothic style cathedral built in Spain.

The cathedral's apse forms part of the defence system of the city and the structure in its totality seems more a fortress than a temple of worship.

The Romanesque churches San Vicente and San Pedro are of unequalled beauty and perfect representations of the style.

In the afternoon you will enjoy your rehearsal and second concert in the walled city of Avila before return to your hotel in Segovia

### **March 27 (Tuesday) Segovia - Toledo – Madrid (B,D)**

Breakfast

**Am.** Departure to Toledo, *visit to the city* with *Cathedral*

**Pm.** Continue to Madrid. Check in and **Dinner** at the Hotel. Overnight Stay



## **SEGOVIA -TOLEDO-MADRID.**

Breakfast.

Today you will take a tour to enjoy a complete day in the city of Toledo. This lovely city, ancient capital of Spain and its vast overseas empire, will come alive before your eyes as the guide leads you through its history and art. Few cities have maintained their monuments and atmosphere down through the ages with the care and brilliance of Toledo. You will wander the same narrow, cobbled streets as El Greco, Carlos V, Felipe II, and Fernando and Isabel, patrons of Columbus.

You will visit the Cathedral, the first in importance (Toledo is the religious capital of Spain), and the second in size (the cathedral in Seville is larger). In the vestry, there are so many works by renowned artists that many experts consider it to be a painting museum in itself.

The two synagogues and mosques provide mute testimony to the period in which members of the three cultures, Moorish, Jewish and Christian, lived together within the cities walls, and created a harmonious ambience of great consequence for the Western culture.

After returning to Madrid, you will have the rest of the day at your disposal to explore Spain's capital. Overnight stay.

### **March 28 (Wednesday) Madrid & Concert # 3 (B,D)**

Breakfast

**Am. Panoramic Tour of Madrid** (without entrances)

Leisure time

**Pm. Rehearsal and Concert in Madrid or surrounding  
Dinner and Overnight Stay in Madrid**



### **Madrid Sightseeing, concert and overnight stay in Madrid.**

After breakfast,

you will take a panoramic sightseeing tour that includes a visit to the Prado Museum and the Royal Palace.

After lunch, you will be transferred to the performance site in Madrid or its surroundings for rehearsal and concert.

Return to the hotel after the concert. Dinner and overnight stay.

□ **Performance** Arrangements will be made for a concert this afternoon or evening in Madrid or surrounding towns.

### **March 29 (Thursday) Madrid - Valencia (B,D)**

Breakfast

**Am.** Departure to Valencia with free time for lunch on route

**Pm.** Check and **Dinner** at the Hotel. Overnight Stay in Valencia

### **Madrid to Valencia ( via Cuenca)**

After breakfast,

you will leave Madrid across La Mancha central plateau, the land of Don Quixote, and almost two hours away we will stop in Cuenca, one of the human heritage cities in Spain, where we will have the opportunity to explore the old town and enjoy a walking tour and some time at leisure, for example to visit the Museum of Abstract Art.

Cuenca, located in a natural setting of phantasmagorical beauty, has a marked medieval charm. Famous are its so-called "hanging houses", buildings that appear suspended over a steep gorge.

The city centre, remarkably beautiful, is presided over by a magnificent Gothic cathedral. Its Museum of Abstract Art is one of the finest of its kind.

After some time at leisure for lunch on your own we will continue towards Valencia. We will arrive early afternoon and we will check in the hotel.

Dinner and overnight stay in Valencia.

### **March 30 (Friday) Valencia (B,D)**

Breakfast

**Am. Panoramic tour of Valencia** (without entrances)

Rest of the day at leisure

**Dinner** and Overnight Stay in Valencia



### **Valencia sightseeing & Afternoon Concert with local choir**

After breakfast,

you will start your sightseeing tour including the visit to the Cathedral of Valencia and the old town.

You will have some time at leisure at la Malvarrosa where the main beaches of Valencia are located and where you can try some local paella at one of the local restaurants.

After some leisure, you will be transferred to the performance site for rehearsal and concert.

Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight stay in Valencia.

□ **Performance** Arrangements will be made for a concert this afternoon or evening in Valencia or surrounding towns.

**Valencia** is the capital of the region. It is world famous for its unique fiesta of Saint Joseph, known as "Las Fallas", when enormous papier-mâché sculptures are set ablaze. The city has a priceless Gothic-style architectural heritage, including the Lonja and El Miguelete, the cathedral belltower.

Besides its ancient city and its world known festivals, the city of Valencia and its surrounding areas is probably the most important region of Spain with more large tradition in music. Just in the surroundings of Valencia, there are more than 3,000 marching bands that will bring you an idea of how important is the musical tradition in the area.

Dinner and overnight stay in Valencia.

### **March 31 (Saturday) Valencia – Barcelona (B,D)**

Breakfast

**Am.** Departure to Barcelona with free time for lunch on route

**Pm.** Check in at the Hotel

**Dinner** and Overnight Stay in Barcelona

### **Valencia-Costa Azahar - Barcelona sightseeing tour - Overnight in Barcelona**

After breakfast

we will depart Valencia towards Barcelona. Our drive this morning will be along the

Costa del Azahar. La Costa Azahar (Orange-blossom Coast) stretches to the North of Valencia alongside the province of Castellon. It's most important tourist centres are Vinaroz, Benicarlo, Peñíscola, Alcoceber, Oropesa and Benicasim.

We will stop at Peñíscola, a village located on a high promontory that is dominated by a medieval castle, within the walls of which are houses and streets creatively positioned to take advantage of the scarce, irregular terrain.

We will follow again the highway and we will arrive into Barcelona early afternoon. Upon arrival, we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of the city, where you will visit the Parc Guell and the Sagrada Familia, together with some other main buildings by Gaudí, the Paseo de Gracia, the Olympic Port and Montjuic where the Olympic Stadium is located.

Dinner and overnight stay in Barcelona.

### **April 01(Sunday) Barcelona & Concert # 4 (B,D)**

Breakfast

Am. *Panoramic tour of Barcelona* (without entrances)

Leisure time

**Pm. Rehearsal and Concert in Barcelona or surrounding**

**Dinner and Overnight Stay in Barcelona**



### **Barcelona at leisure. Afternoon concert - Overnight stay.**

After breakfast

you will have the morning on your own to explore the old Gothic Quarter, where the Picasso Museum and the Palau de la Musica are located.

After strolling over the Las Ramblas, you will have time on your own for lunch.

During the afternoon, you will be transferred to the performance site for rehearsal and concert.

Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight stay in Barcelona

Performance Arrangements will be made for your farewell concert this evening in Barcelona or surrounding towns.

### **April 02 (Monday) Barcelona Departure (B)**

Breakfast

Transfer to Barcelona airport. **End of the services**

### **Barcelona airport - back home**

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport.

End of services.

**\* Services included:**

3 Luxury coaches for services according to the program  
1 Instruments' van for the whole program  
3 Tour Managers for the whole program  
Diets, lodging .. etc for the drivers and guides  
Parkings, tools .. etc during the trip  
English Speaking Local Guides for the visits  
Entrance fees according to the program  
9 nights accommodation in 3 star hotel  
Daily Breakfast  
Daily Dinner, according to the program  
Arrangements for 4 concerts/Venues  
Frees in triple/Twin  
Taxes

**\* Net price per person in Triple/Twin :**

Currency in accordance with Sweden's central bank 12 July 2011

(subject to change)

EURO 1 = 1.41 USD

EURO 1 = 9.25 SEK

USD 1 = 6.66 SEK

120 pax paying + 6 frees = 1.273 euros (app. 1.795 USD)

130 pax paying + 6 frees = 1.226 euros (app. 1.729 USD)

140 pax paying + 6 frees = 1 202 euros (app. 1.695 USD)

150 pax paying + 6 frees= 1 195 euros 1.685)

\* Single supplement : 240 euros